(b) whether Government have done any thing to assist the enterprise?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) Several hospitals have been set up by the corporate sector which are providing medical care of a high standard. They are eligible to avail of the concessions being extended to the private sector by the Governments.

World Band Aid

702. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that World Bank has approved three massive schemes, valued at about Rs. 1700 crores, for eliminating leprosy, controlling blindness in seven States and containing T. B. in five metropolitan towns by the turn of the century;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof State-wise and metropolitan town-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that the release of funds has been delayed for the programme for blindness due to non-approval of the laprosy and TB projects by the Goverament;

(d) whether the World Bank has cleared the Rs. 585 crores blindness control programme for the aforesaid States; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof and what action Government propose to take in this respect?

THE MINISTER OIF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The World Bank has approved financial assistance of 302 crores for Loprosy Eredication Programme. Blindness Control Project is proposed to be implemented in seven States at an estimated cost of Rs. 585 crores which is under the consideration of the World Bank. Financial assistance for TB Control Programme is being discussed with the World Bank and the total outlay is still to be determined.

(b) The activities under Notional Leprosy Eradication Programme involve extension of Multi Drug Therapy (MDT) services to 66 endemic districts. 77 moderately endemic districts and MDT support to endmic pockets of low endemic districts in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa, Kerala, Manipur, Rajasthan; Karnataka, Maharashtda, Himachal Pradesh, Union Territory of Daman and Diu, Haryana, J & K Chandigarh, including extension of IEC, monitoring & evaluation. Ulcer and Disability Care and training and manpower development for all States.

The Blindness Control Project will be implemented in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa. Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Rajasthan. The World Bank Preparatory Mission has recommended for implementation of TB Control Project in five States and 10 metropolitan cities.

(c) The only project finally approved by the World Bank is in respect of Leprosy, Govt. approval of this project is awaiting grant of necessary financial and administrative clearances. The question of delay in the release of funds for the Blindness and TB projects does not arise as they are yet to receive approval of the World Bank.

(d) The project is stil under consideration of the World Bank.

(e) More than 11 million contract operations are proposed to be performed in 7 project States, by upgrading the ophthalmic infrastructure, providing equipments and consumables etc, training and redeploying the staff to perform high volume surgery.

Sterilization target for Eighth Five Year Plan period

703. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the target set for sterilization by the States during the Eighth Five Year Plan period;

(b) whether Government have set higher target for the same during the